

From: Roy Seneca/R3/USEPA/US
Sent: 3/16/2012 12:25:17 PM
To: "Nick Snow" <NickS@PennWell.com>
CC: "Terri-A White" <White.Terri-A@epamail.epa.gov>
Subject: RE: EPA statement on initial water sampling results in Dimock, Pa.

EPA has not done any detailed review to determine the cause. Our focus is first and foremost on the drinking water quality of residents.

Roy Seneca
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From: Nick Snow <NickS@PennWell.com>
To: Roy Seneca/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 03/16/2012 12:02 PM
Subject: RE: EPA statement on initial water sampling results in Dimock, Pa.

I have just one: Do the findings suggest that faulty water wells were responsible for the presence of these contaminants?

Nick Snow
Washington Editor
Oil & Gas Journal
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From: Roy Seneca [Seneca.Roy@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2012 11:52 AM
To: Nick Snow
Subject: Fw: EPA statement on initial water sampling results in Dimock, Pa.

Nick -- If you email me your questions, I will try to get you a response asap.

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----- Forwarded by Roy Seneca/R3/USEPA/US on 03/16/2012 11:51 AM -----

From: Roy Seneca/R3/USEPA/US
To: NickS@PennWell.com
Cc: Terri-A White/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Cathy Milbourn/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 03/16/2012 11:11 AM
Subject: EPA statement on initial water sampling results in Dimock, Pa.

Nick - Here is the EPA statement about the first round of sampling at 11 homes.

On Jan. 19, as a result of requests from residents and a review of the data we had in hand, EPA announced it would perform water sampling at approximately 60 homes in the Carter Road/Meshoppen Creek Road area of Dimock, Pa. to further assess whether any residents are being exposed to hazardous substances that cause health concerns.

The first round of sampling results is now available for the first 11 homes that were tested during the week of Jan. 23. Sampling results from these 11 homes did not show levels of contamination that could present a health concern. Samples from six of the 11 homes did show concentrations of sodium, methane, chromium or bacteria, but concentrations were all within the safe range for drinking water. The sampling results also identified the presence of arsenic at two homes.

Out of the 11 homes tested, there are currently three homes receiving an alternate water supply provided by EPA. EPA will continue to provide water to these homes while we perform additional sampling to ensure that the drinking water quality at these homes remains consistent and acceptable for use over time. EPA is also taking a second round of samples from the two homes where arsenic was detected, and although the levels meet drinking water standards, we will resample to better characterize the water quality of these wells. After receiving results from the second round of sampling, EPA will re-evaluate the need to continue providing an alternate water source.

EPA has offered to meet with all the residents to go over their data and answer any health-related concerns. As further quality assured data becomes available for the remaining homes, we will share with the homeowners in an expedited manner. Our actions will continue to be based on the science and the law as we work to help get a clear picture of water quality for these homes in Dimock.

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